Practicum Opportunity

Conducting a Systematic Review of Clubfoot Management

**MiracleFeet Overview**

MiracleFeet is an international nonprofit organization that increases access to proper treatment for children born with clubfoot in low and middle-income countries (LMICs) through partnerships with local healthcare providers. There are over one million people living with untreated clubfoot, making it one of the primary causes of physical disability in the world. Since our inception, we have supported the treatment of over 25,000 children in 21 low and middle income countries through over 185 partner clinics. We utilize the Ponseti Method (non-invasive, gold standard of treatment involving serial casting and bracing), which makes it possible to treat clubfoot effectively and safely for as little as $250 a person. By increasing access to treatment, MiracleFeet gives children born with clubfoot the chance live active, healthy, and productive lives. MiracleFeet aims to reach 100,000 children by 2022, with a mission of working to eradicating the disability associated with clubfoot globally. See [www.miraclefeet.org](http://www.miraclefeet.org) to learn more about the issue of clubfoot and how MiracleFeet is approaching it.

**Summary**

MiracleFeet takes pride in working on the forefront of clubfoot programming and innovation globally. In order to do this, MiracleFeet has previously collected research and data on an as-needed basis. A systematic review is needed to gather and analyze the vast knowledge available about clubfoot management to ensure that MiracleFeet is well appraised of current research. Some regional systematic reviews exist but none which cover clubfoot management globally. Such a review would significantly support MiracleFeet’s work in assuring quality treatment in its programs and bolstering its case to funders.

This position reports to the Research, Evaluation and Operations Manager and works closely with the Deputy Director of Programs.

**Responsibilities**

- Conduct a systematic review of the available literature on clubfoot management using the Ponseti Method
- Report the results in a scientific paper eligible for publishing in a major orthopedic, pediatric or other related journal
Skills and Experiences You Will Develop

- Technical writing
- Research and analysis
- Insight and experience at a well-connected global nonprofit
- Contribution to best practices in global health
- Exposure to monitoring and evaluation, assurance and quality in healthcare

Location, Timing and Funding

This practicum can be completed during the spring and/or summer 2018 semesters, with preference for a start date as soon as possible. Final deliverables are due August 15, 2018. This practicum can be undertaken remotely and done during or outside MiracleFeet work hours. Space is available at the MiracleFeet office in Chapel Hill, NC for the student to work at the office. The student is expected to keep track of her/his hours and to submit these hours on a weekly basis. This practicum is unfunded. The student will receive first authorship on the final publication and may use any or all parts of the final deliverable as the student’s masters paper.

Requirements

- Must have at least one semester of credits towards a masters degree, or hold a terminal degree in a health-related field
- Must be fluent in spoken and written English
- Must have frequent access to:
  - a computer
  - high-speed internet
  - a university library
- Candidates with significant exposure to the field of medicine in an academic capacity strongly preferred

How to Apply

Send a resume and brief description of interest and applicable skills (<300 words) to Christie Pettitt-Schieber at christie.pettitt-schieber@miraclefeet.org.